



MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY

REAL-TIME INDUSTRY SUMMARY

OCTOBER 2025

2024 STATEWIDE LABOR ANALYSIS

There were over 43,000 online job postings for the Manufacturing industry from January 2024 to December 2024. The top occupation was *Production Workers, All Other*, which made up 3.9 percent of total industry job postings for the time period.

The employers with the most job postings were Boeing, Ford, Johnson & Johnson, Honeywell International, and Simmons Prepared Foods.

TOP ONLINE JOB POSTINGS			
SOC Code	Description	Percent of total industry postings	Average Annual Wage
Now- requires short-term on-the-job training, little to no experience, and/or a high school diploma			
53-7062	Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers, Hand	2.9%	\$39,900 ★
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	1.5%	\$45,000 ★
43-5071	Shipping, Receiving, & Inventory Clerks	1.3%	\$43,520
53-7051	Industrial Truck & Tractor Operators	0.9%	\$47,550
53-7064	Packers & Packagers, Hand	0.8%	\$37,550
Next- requires a non-degree certificate, associate degree, apprenticeship, some experience, or moderate-to long-term training			
51-9199	Production Workers, All Other	3.9%	\$42,720
49-9071	Maintenance & Repair Workers, General	3.5%	\$51,360 ★
41-4012	Sales Representatives, Wholesale & Manufacturing	2.7%	\$74,740
51-9061	Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, & Weighers	2.0%	\$55,630
51-2090	Miscellaneous Assemblers & Fabricators	1.8%	\$46,040 ★
Later- requires a bachelor's degree or higher			
11-2022	Sales Managers	2.1%	\$122,340
17-2112	Industrial Engineers	2.0%	\$99,020
15-1252	Software Developers	1.9%	\$114,240 ★
41-4011	Sales Representatives, Technical & Scientific Products	1.8%	\$103,180
15-1299	Computer Occupations, All Other	1.7%	\$93,590

★ Denotes the top 10 occupations by total number of projected openings from 2022-2032 in Now, Next, and Later categories

EDUCATION AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Across the state, there are numerous programs in many locations that train for occupations in the Manufacturing industry. To find degree and certificate programs at an educational institution near you, visit [MoSCORES](#), a tool designed to assist job seekers, students, career counselors, educators, and planners with a better understanding of training options and typical work outcomes of graduates, for traditional degree programs as well as noncredit credentials. In addition, there are U.S. Department of Labor Registered Apprenticeship programs for Manufacturing occupations in Missouri. Visit [Apprenticeship Missouri](#) for more information.

TOP ONLINE JOB POSTINGS

TOP 10 COMMON SKILLS

Communication
Management
Operations
Leadership
Sales
Customer Service
Problem Solving
Detail Oriented
Troubleshooting (Problem Solving)
Microsoft Excel

.....
Several soft skills, such as communication, leadership, and customer service, ranked in the top 10 common skills. Communication skills were found in 41 percent of total Manufacturing job postings.

TOP 10 SPECIALIZED SKILLS

Continuous Improvement Process
Project Management
Marketing
Auditing
Warehousing
Forklift Truck
Machinery
Process Improvement
Personal Protective Equipment
Computer Science

.....
Top requested specialized skills included continuous improvement process, project management, and marketing.

TOP 10 SOFTWARE SKILLS

SAP Applications
Operating Systems
Python (Programming Language)
Salesforce
SQL (Programming Language)
R (Programming Language)
Power BI
AutoCAD
Dashboard
Spreadsheets

.....
Microsoft Office and its products, such as Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Access, are the most requested software skills across all industries. Other skills requested in the Manufacturing industry include SAP, operating systems, and Python.

TOP 10 QUALIFICATIONS

Valid Driver's License
Security Clearance
Commercial Driver's License (CDL)
Secret Clearance
Master of Business Administration (MBA)
Forklift Certification
Project Management Professional Certification
Top Secret-Sensitive Compartmented Information (TS/SCI Clearance)
Airframe & Powerplant (A&P) Certificate
Six Sigma Green Belt

.....
The top requested certificate was Driver's License, followed by Security Clearances, and Commercial Driver's License.

Sources:

- LightCast™
- U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Division of Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics, 2024
- 2022-2032 Employment Projections published by Missouri Economic Research and Workforce Information Center (MERIC), 2024

This workforce product was funded by a grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. The product was created by the recipient and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the U.S. Department of Labor. The U.S. Department of Labor makes no guarantees, warranties, or assurances of any kind, express or implied, with respect to such information, including any information on linked sites and including, but not limited to, accuracy of the information or its completeness, timeliness, usefulness, adequacy, continued availability, or ownership. This product is copyrighted by the institution that created it. Internal use by an organization and/or personal use by an individual for non-commercial purposes is permissible. All other uses require the prior authorization of the copyright owner.